



**College Park CAT Meeting #10
Virtual Meeting – February 16, 2023
Questions & Responses**

Below is a summary of questions and responses discussed during the February 16, 2023, virtual Community Advisory Team (CAT) presentation.

Question: Is there a metes and bounds (or legal) description of the Purple Line through College Park? If so, where can I access it?

Response: Plats are not posted on our website, but we do coordinate with property owners who have had acquisitions to their property associated with the project. If you have questions about where your property intersects with the project, please contact our outreach team by calling 443-451-3706 or email outreach@purplelinemd.com.

Question: Will Campus Drive will be closed to traffic in the future and what will the final configuration look like?

Response: Campus Drive on the University of Maryland campus is currently open in one direction only during construction. The project team is currently evaluating a plan for a full closure of portions of Campus Drive through the summer of 2023 to accommodate roadway and track construction. Once the plan is finalized, the project will communicate any detours to the public. In the final configuration, light rail vehicles will share the roadway with buses in the eastbound travel lanes of Campus Drive. Westbound Campus Drive on campus will be shared by the light rail, buses, and vehicular traffic.

Question: Will there be chain link fences on both sides of the tracks other than in pedestrian crossings through UMD campus?

Response: There will not be chain link fencing along the tracks. There will be ornamental-style fencing where crosswalks are not present. The operator will be required to stop at all crosswalks, and the project team will engage in a major educational push closer to the opening of the light rail system to make sure students are familiar with how to safely interact with the Purple Line vehicles.

Question: Will there be bike lanes on UMD's Campus?

Response: A 10-foot-wide bike trail will run along the south side of the Purple Line's tracks through campus.

Question: When will track be installed on Campus Drive? Will Campus Drive need to be closed?

Response: Some track has already been installed on Campus Drive near the CSX tracks and the College Park Metro Station off campus. Track work on Campus Drive will occur in multiple phases between spring 2023 and summer 2025. Track on campus will be installed in two phases in order to keep Campus Drive open. The first phase of installation will be track one, on the north side of Campus Drive. Following its completion, we will switch to track two on the south side of Campus Drive.

Question: How will the new traffic light near the former “M” circle be mounted?

Response: This will be a signalized intersection, with vehicles traveling in the traffic circle and the light rail traveling in a straight line. The signal will be mounted on high-mast poles.

Question: Will pedestrian traffic during class changes on UMD’s campus impact the train’s schedule? Are there plans to avoid a complete backup of train movement?

Response: Trains will follow the flow of traffic, stopping for pedestrians within the crosswalk.

Question: Why did the cost of the project increase?

Response: In our post-pandemic marketplace, major factors that influenced the cost include supply chain issues, rising material costs, labor shortages, inflation and insurance increases – all of which carry their own costs while also affecting industry risk assessment and allocation. Government agencies, local jurisdictions and private firms across the nation are experiencing significant increases on major projects due to these and other related factors.

Question: Who is paying for the project increase?

Response: Our concessionaire, Purple Line Transit Partners, is financing the additional cost through a combination of debt and equity. PLTP, in turn, will then be repaid through increased availability payments made by the State during the 30-year operations and maintenance period.